

that the dentist has to authorize, has to authorize this service or procedure to be performed by the dental hygienist. In other words, we are not giving the dental hygienist free rein to go out and do anything they want to. The dentist that they are working for, the dentist that is actually in charge still has control and the dental hygienist cannot go out and drum up patients on their own. It has to be patients of the dentist, patients of record so I don't see anything wrong with that. And to make sure that that is the way it is going to happen there is even language in the amendment to prohibit the practice from dental hygienists from being independent, from being out from under that of a licensed dentist under the supervision whether it be direct, indirect or in general. So I guess I view this as a turf battle and I don't think that it is going to affect the quality of health care to the people of this state at all. If it does then it must be at the fault of the practitioners, the licensed dentist who allow people to do things that aren't, they aren't capable of doing and I don't think that is going to happen. I have a lot of faith in those licensed people. I have a lot of faith in that profession. I have enough faith to say to them that as long as you have licensed personnel working for you with the obvious training and you think that they are capable of doing and performing these functions then you make the decision to do so. I support the amendment.

SENATOR KAHLE: Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Mr. President, I would rise to support the amendment as well. You know it has been quite well explained but I, like the rest of you, have received a variety of contact from dentists and I think the bottom line is that those dentists that are, in fact, now permitting or requesting the hygienist to do some of these things ought to have the legal authority to authorize it which is what it does. It has been clearly pointed out it does not basically expand current practices as it has apparently done in many parts of the state and I would hope that you would adopt the amendment because I think it is a very reasonable one. Many of the original things that was proposed, there was individual practice proposed at one time of a variety of things. All those things are not included here and so I think that one other point as I understand the Attorney